

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 05566 100909Z

11

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10

SCI-06 OMB-01 SS-15 HEW-08 AID-20 MED-03 IGA-02 RSR-01

/130 W

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R 100612Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5316

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTINE 5566

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SMAR, LA

SUBJECT: COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS (CND) -AD HOC
COMMITTEE ON ILLICIT TRAFFIC

REF: CANBERRA 4418

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF AUGUST 7, THE
DIRECTOR OF THE RLG FOREIGN MINISTRY'S OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (PLATTHANA) SAID THAT
WITH ROYAL LAO GOVERNMENTS'S (RLG) ACCESSION TO SINGLE
CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS, FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD
LIKE DETAILED BRIEFING ON CONVENTION (ESPECIALLY RE
ARTICLE 24(5)(B) CONCERNING STEPS WHICH RLG MUST TAKE
TO SELL OPIUM SEIZED IN THE "ILLICIT" TRAFFIC.

2. CLEARLY THIS IS HIGHLY TECHNICAL MATTER WHICH
SHOULD BE EXPLAINED TO RLG BY KNOWLEDGEABLE U.N.
EXPERT. WE NOTE FROM REFTTEL THAT COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS
(CND) AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ILLICIT TRAFFIC DOES NOT
INTEND TO VISIT LAOS DURING ITS PROPOSED STUDY TOUR

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IN NOVEMBER-DECEMBER. WE SUGGEST, HOWEVER, U.S.

MISSION GENEVA APPROACH CND AND REQUEST THAT IT FORWARD
TO RLG CLARIFYING INFORMATION ON PRECISE PROCEEDURES
THAT LAOS MUST FOLLOW IN ORDER TO SELL ITS SEIZED OPIUM
IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES LAID DOWN BY THE UNITED NATIONS.
CND COULD SEND THIS INFO TO THE SENIOR U.N. REP IN
VIENTIANE FOR TRANSMISSION TO MR. PLATTHANA (U.N. RESI-
DENT REP IS KENNETH LUKE, AVENUE LANG XANG).

3. COMMENT: FOLLOW-THROUGH ON THIS MATTER IS IMPORTANT
TO THIS MISSION, SINCE -- IN EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE RLG
TO ACCEED TO CONVENTION -- WE POINTED OUT THAT ONCE LAOS
WAS A PARTY THERETO, IT WOULD BE ELIGILBE TO BENEFIT FROM
THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 24, WHEREAS PREVIOUSLY IT
COULD NOT SELL SEIZED OPIUM TO OTHER PARTIES.
DEAN

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30 JUN 2005

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